

Leicester, Mass^{ts}, May 6, 1860.

Dear friend Webb.

* I sh^d. say that altho' we have so much improved our office - quarters, yet our Society's expenditure of Rent is not enhanced, as the House finds neither pay for annual difference, or acct. of accommodation to themselves, their servants, & their public outgoings.

I had a pretty busy week, - the last, - and came home last (Saturday) evening, wearied quite out; and tomorrow morning, I am to start for New York, to attend the Annual Meeting there. - Last Monday, I removed my family from the neighborhood of Boston to this our 25 yrs. country home (which Richard will remember, I doubt not); this was something of a job. I remained here one day, helping to get things "to rights"; on Wed. morn^g. returned to Boston, & made preparations for another move - viz^t of our Antislavery Office from its old quarters in Cornhill to a new & much superior building in Washington St., where we have a much more commodious apartment, considerably larger; and far more agreeable than the old office, which was contracted, impossible to keep clean, & ill-ventilated.* On Friday, 5th, the removal was accomplished, and we are now established in new quarters, though it will take some little time to get our various matters into order & shape. I remained at the Office yesterday until nearly 2, "reducing to order some small portion of the disorder, & then returned, the 50 ms., to Leicester; and have been thankful, I am sure, for the rest, body & mind, of this "First Day". - I should not now deem it in my power to write you a letter worth your reading, and certainly sh^d. not be attempting it, did I not feel it my duty to write & let you know something about Garrison. - In my last - some 3 weeks since - I said to you that you w^d. probably see him in your own country this summer; for he had gone so far as to get "the refusal" of a State-room in

the Mail steamer to sail from Boston May 16.
He then was hoping that H.C. Wright would
accompany him, - for he has, from the first,
been exceedingly loth to go alone. H.C.W.
could not conveniently go, and this aid to
the enterprise was taken away. ^[Confidential.] But
another difficulty presented itself, - not
much needed at first - but appearing
more serious, the more it was thought
of; - this was the fact of Frederick
Douglass's being in England. Garrison,
indeed, from the beginning had said he
would have no controversy with F.D.
whatever, and would make no allusion
at all to him in any public meeting
he might attend. But the difficulty
attending this, in the circumstances,
and the obvious look of the thing, as if
he had followed F.D. to England, with
some personal object, - the more they were
contemplated, seemed to become weightier
reasons ~~for~~ why he should not go. This
view of the case has weighed a good deal on
his mind. Then he is feeling considerably anxious
about his wife's health, - altho' we think
needlessly so, - and this, at present, discourages
him from the thought of going. Accordingly
the prospect of his going to England this summer
looks decidedly less favorable than it did

when I last wrote to you. I do not think it is abandoned; but it is highly uncertain. It is quite certain he will not go on the 16th May, - nor at any time in May; - and no time is now talked about. - I think that, if I should go to England this summer, he would probably accompany me; but there are several causes which prevent my deciding to do so, at present, although ~~our~~ Executive Comtee have passed a very kind vote, favoring my going, and individually urge me not to neglect this means of recruiting health, a good deal impaired the last 15 mos. - One of the strongest reasons why I should go now lies in the fact that (^{as} I am told) Mr. Garrison has recently said "he should go, if ~~I~~ I went." or something to that effect. - Now the above is quite confidential; I think it only right to tell you just how it stands, but I am not at all willing to have it known ^{among you} that G.'s going depends in the least on mine, - and he has never said that to me, and it may not be just so. ^{I am sure it should not be so.} I hope you have not given any notice ~~&~~ in the Advocate of G.'s probable coming, - and I w^d. advise against any such notice being given. If you are writing to Eliza Wigham (who is the only other person in G.B. besides yourself, to whom I named the prospect of Mr. G.'s visiting your country)

I wish you would say ^{to her} that the likelihood of
such a thing has greatly lessened.

I have duly subscribed for "Zion's Herald"
to be sent for 3 mos. to "Dr. Palmer, Tandem,
Waterford, Ireland". The whole subscription,
including 2cts. (or 1^d.) postage on each paper, came
to but 63 cts., which I charge in acc^t with you.

You have, I trust, received before this
the box of Antislavery books, &c. which I
forwarded to you, nearly 3 wks. ago, by
Steamship, to the care of S. R. Graves in
Liverpool, - notifying you by letter, - by same
steamer, - of what I had done.

I may add a few lines in New York.

The ~~Charleston~~ ^{National} Democratic Nominating Con-
vention, which met in Charleston S.C., after 10
days of vehement discussion, and of all imaginable
manœuvring, - in which however ^{few} some of the Northern
Democrats showed more back-bone, and more boldness
in resisting Southern dictation, than they have ever had
credit for - adjourned without making any nomination
a fact unprecedented & unheard of, - in every way
remarkable & instructive; as an historical fact, showing
the progress and strength of the Northern anti-slavery
feeling, exceedingly important. ^{They are to re-assemble in Baltimore on the 18th June.} Depend upon it, "in the
ear of the Oppressors there is a terrible sound" - the
noise of many waters, gathering strength as they come on,
and certain in their irresistible might to sweep away
the abomination. - Are you as despondent as you were?
Do you not discern some proof of the action of A.S. ideas on the

* I sh^d. say that altho' we have 50 much improved our office - quarters, yet our Society's expenditure of Rent is not enhanced as
the House paid further pay for removal of furniture, & for acc^t of accommodation to themselves, their families, & their public visitors, &c.